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FOREIGN AGRICULTURE CIRCULAR

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BEANS
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WORLD TRADE IN DRY BEANS REACHED

8.5 MILLION BAGS IN 1959

World trade in dry beans in 1959 totaled 8.5 million bags, an 18 percent increase over the previous year's 6.9 million and 20 percent over the 6.8 million traded in 1957.

This report is based upon complete trade returns from 13 major importing countries and 13 major exporting countries. Totals also included the trade of these countries with some 23 non-reporting countries. Most of the non-reporters (though not all) were minor traders in Africa and East Europe. Of the total beans moving on world trade, the United States provided 52 percent in 1959. It furnished 38 percent in 1958, and 31 percent in 1957.

Fourteen countries of Western Europe had an import trade of 4.4 million bags in 1959. All are net importers of dry beans in most years. Italy was a net exporter in 1959, but was a net importer in the preceding two years. The United Kingdom, largest European importer, took 1.8 million bags in 1959. Other sizable importers were France, West Germany and Belgium. These countries principally use white beans, the bulk of which was supplied by the United States. Of the 4.4 million bags imported in 14 West European countries, 727,000 bags or 16 percent, originated and terminated within the 14 countries. The balance came from outside Europe as follows: The United States, 44 percent; the Balkans, 7 percent; Africa, 10 percent; Chile, 7 percent; and Asia, 9 percent. Europe's 1959 imports were up 30 percent over the 3 million bags in 1958, and 17 percent over 1957's.

The Caribbean area also a consistent net importer of dry beans, took 2.2 million bags in 1959, mostly colored types. Per capita consumption is very high in this area and domestic production has not supplied the demand. Mexico and Cuba are two of the largest importers, getting nearly

BEANS, DRY EDIBLE: World trade, annual 1957-1959 (calendar years)

Reporting countries	1957		1958		1959	
	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import
	1,000 bags 1/	1,000 bags 1/	1,000 bags 1/	1,000 bags 1/	1,000 bags 1/	1,000 bags 1/
Europe:						
Austria	—	—	—	36	—	—
United Kingdom	—	2,075	—	790	—	1,827
Belgium-Luxembourg	92	322	189	279	110	200
Netherlands	221	271	314	251	299	317
Norway	—	—	—	—	—	7
Spain	—	6	—	32	—	143
France	139	263	134	306	108	917
Germany, West	9	472	35	840	6	430
Greece	—	190	10	121	—	150
Switzerland	—	69	—	68	—	42
Italy	49	197	71	170	429	7
Sweden	—	55	—	57	--	57
Portugal	44	115	63	47	136	70
Yugoslavia	118	56	60	38	3	248
Total	672	4,091	876	3,035	1,091	4,415
Latin America:						
Chile	554	—	337	—	437	—
Mexico	112	154	—	910	—	909
Cuba	—	966	—	1,155	—	1,063
Argentina	63	—	48	—	34	—
Venezuela	—	—	—	—	—	210
Costa Rica	—	—	—	—	—	40
Guatemala	—	—	—	—	17	—
Nicaragua	—	—	—	—	32	26
Total	729	1,120	385	2,065	520	2,248
North America:						
United States	2,616	88	2,156	156	4,430	67
Canada	83	86	71	94	102	65
Total	2,699	174	2,227	250	4,532	132
Asia:						
Burma	—	—	485	—	—	—
Turkey	—	—	3	—	140	—
Japan	—	778	12	475	493	483
Total	—	778	500	475	633	483
Africa:						
Angola	277	—	196	—	238	—
Madagascar	—	—	377	—	—	—
Algeria	—	—	13	196	—	—
Morocco	—	—	15	—	—	—
Sudan	—	—	185	—	117	—
Total	277	—	786	196	355	—
Middle East:						
Israel	—	—	—	45	—	—
Lebanon	—	—	—	14	—	—
Total	—	—	—	59	—	—
Grand total reporting	4,377	6,163	4,774	6,080	7,131	7,278
Grand total non-reporting	2,430	518	2,174	650	1,362	573
World Total	6,807	6,681	6,948	6,730	8,493	7,851

1/ 100-lb. bags.

all of their beans from the United States. The Caribbean area received 94 percent from the U.S. in 1959, 86 percent in 1958, and 95 percent in 1957. Chile supplied most of the balance, with Argentina and Brazil contributing in 1958.

The United States was the largest exporter of dry beans in 1959, shipping 4.4 million bags. The bulk went to Europe, Cuba, Mexico and Venezuela.

Most of the trade from Asian and African countries is in the total for non-reporting countries and went to Western Europe.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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